

Learning Conversation Notes	
Name of Partner: MusicTalk, Incorporated	Date: November 1, 2007
Number of Children Served: 31 17 are continuing and 14 are new	Ages: 0 yr (), 1 yr (), 2 yr (6), 3 yr (4), 4 yr (9), 5 yr (12)
When Served: July 1, 2007 to October 31, 2007	Gender: 21-Male 10-Female Ethnicity: Caucasian 25 African Amer. 1 Hispanic 5
Conversation Participants: Bobbie Brown, Don Ferretti, Nancy Baggett, Cathy Ferron, Janice Critchlow, Janey Crider, Melanie Cleary	
Outcome: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children communicate their needs, socialize and interact with their peers, teachers and parents through music. 	
Performance Measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demographics according to the categories mandated in the First 5 Placer Demographic Tool. In addition the following will be required; number of children served directly, the number of children served indirectly and the number of parents/caregivers served. Parent pre/post surveys to measure changes in children's use of music to enhance their communication, socialization and interaction skills. Educator pre/post surveys to measure changes in children's use of music to enhance their communication, socialization and interaction skills. Videos documenting changes in communication, socialization and interaction skills with Facilitator observations that relate to the outcome. 	

What is this data telling us about achievement of outcomes?

Demographics:

Serving 31 children ages 2 through 5 in 6 classrooms

More males are being served in the program than females. This is consistent with the overall occurrence of autism.

Most children are Caucasian, one African American and five Hispanic.

Given the sites where classes are offered, the children served seem to reflect the county demographics.

Educator Pre/Post Surveys

The focus of this survey is to determine the level of communication, socialization and interaction skills of each child in their classroom.

At this point in the school year only pre surveys have been completed.

Pre-surveys were collected on each child; a sampling of surveys was shared in the learning conversation. Pre-survey results for the group as a whole will be charted against mid-survey results and posted with the next learning conversation notes.

Parent Pre/Post Surveys

Pre surveys were collected on each child; a sampling of surveys was shared in the learning conversation. Pre-survey results for the group as a whole will be charted against mid-survey results and posted with the next learning conversation notes.

For one of the continuing participants, the parent has indicated a continued progression of skills which was validated by the educator.

Videos documenting change

A child that participated in the MusicTalk program at age two was observed in the video as a 4 year old. He was singing and playing, demonstrating an increased level of interaction both with his mother at home and in the classroom.

One child who was shown rolling on the floor instead of participating in the music circle in Aug 07 was shown sitting in a chair and participating in a music circle in Oct 07. MusicTalk has provided him the opportunity to participate and learn new socialization, communication and interaction skills.

In what ways will we apply what we have learned from our data?

It is important that the parent pre/post surveys are shared with the educators so each child's individual needs can be identified in order to allow the educator and parent to work as a team for the children. The program plans to collect a mid-year survey in addition to the pre/post surveys. The mid-year results will be compared to the pre survey results at the next learning conversation.

From the sampling of both the educator and parent pre surveys, it was observed that parents tend to score their children higher than the educator. At the next learning conversation for both the parent and educator surveys it will be important to look at both of their pre/mid responses related to the outcome statement for overall changes in the child's behavior.

MusicTalk has children in some classes that are older than 5. These other children are in the classes because of their level of functioning. We need to monitor the ratio of children 2 through 5 to those older than 5 to ensure that the majority of children served are in the First 5 target group.

Next Steps:

MusicTalk will prepare a summary table for the next learning conversation that will track all children participating in classrooms served including those older than 5 broken down by type of classroom, location, number of times served per week, age of children, and gender.

MusicTalk will use the client list in the demographic tool to ensure that all the data is included.

MusicTalk will modify the Parent and Educator pre/post surveys to eliminate the names when presenting the child-specific data.

It is important to summarize the data to evaluate progress in general. For the next learning conversation MusicTalk will graph a summary of the survey responses and reflect which responses relate to each part of the outcome (communication, socialization, and interaction). Additionally, MusicTalk will organize the written comments into themes that relate to each part of the outcome.

Next learning conversation is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8, 2008, 1:15 – 4:45.